

Testimony before the Judiciary Committee

3/14/11

Barbara Albert

Good afternoon chairs and members of the Judiciary Committee, also to everyone else.

My name is Barbara Albert, registered voter, reenter in Hartford, Advocate for Human Rights, and Multiply Medically Challenged, I'm on disability, Medicare and Medicaid.

My testimony concerns bills S.B. No. 1015, An Act Concerning the Palliative use of Marijuana, and Raised Bill H.B. No. 6566, An Act Concerning the Compassionate use of Marijuana.

Whichever Bill says it, I am in support of condoning the compassionate use of marijuana to help alleviate the symptoms of debilitating medical conditions.

Just recently I was given a choice by an orthopedic doctor, a brace for my deteriorating ankle, or surgery to fuse the bones.

I cracked my top ankle bone when I was 13. In my twenties, I had two surgeries. Yet it continues to deteriorate. I am unable to take conventional pain relieving antiinflammatories. I get little to no pain relief from moist heat packs, stretching, herbal and dietary changes. I've also been recently diagnosed with arthritis in more than just my ankle. I get stiff if I sit too long, and sore if I walk too far. Think of the body as a mobile. For example, if part of that mobile gets knocked out of balance, it effects the entire rest of the mobile, also knocking everything off balance.

I used to do a lot of walking for therapeutic purposes. I have no other outlet, no other vent.

I am open to trying other Eastern philosophies, like acupuncture, holistic, and naturopathic pain relief. My insurance does not allow why? Because those methods have proved successful for thousands of years? Coffee and chocolate comes from plants too.

Please support Bills S.B. 1015 and Raised Bill H.B. 6566 condoning compassion, with the legal use of another plant.

Thank you for listening.